

# DUNWOODY POLICE

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## ON THE BEAT

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## D.P.D. Awards Banquet

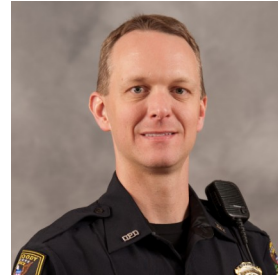
On January 23, 2010, the Dunwoody Police Department gathered for its first awards ceremony. In attendance were officers and their families, the police Explorers and families as well as our volunteer bailiffs and their spouses. It was a chance for the department to look back on its first year to honor some special officers and celebrate their accomplishments as a department. The Dunwoody Police Department was created in less than four months. Officers took the streets on April 1, 2009. Since then, the department and its officers have been committed to providing the citizens of Dunwoody with top notch public safety services.

The first awards that were given out were the Officers of the Quarter for 2009. Officer Jesus Maldonado, Officer William Furman and Officer Fidel Espinoza received the Officer of the Quarter awards.

Officer Jesus Maldonado was recognized as Officer of the Year for 2009. This award was voted on by all of the officers in the department. Officer Maldonado made extraordinary efforts to learn his patrol area and the citizens living in it. He was a vital link to communicating with our Hispanic community and gaining their trust. Officer Maldonado is a very proactive officer has recovered 6 stolen autos, arrested 21 wanted people, made 23 drug arrests, 22 felony arrests and 91 misdemeanor arrests in the last 8 months of 2009.



**Officer J. Maldonado**  
**Officer of the Year**  
**Officer of the Quarter**



**Officer W. Furman**  
**Officer of the Quarter**

Officer William Furman was recognized as Officer of the Quarter for the third quarter in 2009. Officer Furman was responsible for start up of the Explorer program. Officer Furman also attended many neighborhood watch meetings and boy scout troop meetings. Officer Furman is also responsible for the Municipal Court security.



**Officer F. Espinoza**  
**Officer of the Quarter**  
**Marksmanship Award**

Officer Fidel Espinoza was recognized as Officer of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2009. Officer Espinoza was responsible for creating Christmas for Kids. The program gathered over 1000 gifts to give out to children within the city. Officer Espinoza's program was able to help over 100 children have a great Christmas! Officer Espinoza also received the Marksmanship award for 2009.

## Identity Theft

Officer W. Furman

The following information was taken from [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft), which is an excellent resource for citizens who want to educate themselves about identity theft.

### What is identity theft?

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personally identifying information, like your name, Social Security number, or credit card number, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes.

Identity theft is serious. While some identity theft victims can resolve their problems quickly, others spend hundreds of dollars and many days repairing damage to their good name and credit record. Some consumers victimized by identity theft may lose out on job opportunities, or be denied loans for education, housing or cars because of negative information on their credit reports. In rare cases, they may even be arrested for crimes they did not commit.

### What do thieves do with a stolen identity?

Once they have your personal information, identity thieves use it in a variety of ways.

#### *Credit card fraud:*

- They may open new credit card accounts in your name. When they use the cards and don't pay the bills, the delinquent accounts appear on your credit report.
- They may change the billing address on your credit card so that you no longer receive bills, and then run up charges on your account. Because your bills are now sent to a different address, it may be some time before you realize there's a problem.

#### *Phone or utilities fraud:*

- They may open a new phone or wireless account in your name, or run up charges on your existing account.
- They may use your name to get utility services like electricity, heating, or cable TV.

#### *Bank/finance fraud:*

- They may create counterfeit checks using your name or account number.
- They may open a bank account in your name and write bad checks.
- They may clone your ATM or debit card

and make electronic withdrawals your name, draining your accounts.

- They may take out a loan in your name.

#### *Government documents fraud:*

- They may get a driver's license or official ID card issued in your name but with their picture.
- They may use your name and Social Security number to get government benefits.
- They may file a fraudulent tax return using your information.

#### *Other fraud:*

- They may get a job using your Social Security number.
- They may rent a house or get medical services using your name.
- They may give your personal information to police during an arrest. If they don't show up for their court date, a warrant for arrest is issued in your name.

### How can you find out if your identity was stolen?

The best way to find out is to monitor your accounts and bank statements each month, and check your credit report on a regular basis. If you check your credit report regularly, you may be able to limit the damage caused by identity theft. For more information, visit the Detect Identity Theft section.

### What should you do if your identity is stolen?

Filing a police report, checking your credit reports, notifying creditors, and disputing any unauthorized transactions are some of the steps you must take immediately to restore your good name. To learn more about these steps and more, visit the DEFEND: Recover from Identity Theft section. To file a complaint, click here.

### Should you file a police report if your identity is stolen?

A police report that provides specific details of the identity theft is considered an Identity Theft Report, which entitles you to certain legal rights when it is provided to the three major credit reporting agencies or to companies where the thief misused your information. An Identity Theft Report can be used to

- FTC estimates that as many as 9 million Americans a year have their identity stolen.
- 71% of fraud happens within a week of stealing a victim's personal data.
- Low-tech methods for stealing personal information are still the most popular for identity thieves. Stolen wallets and physical documents accounted for 43% of all identity theft, while online methods accounted for only 11%.

## Identity Theft

*continued*

permanently [block fraudulent information](#) that results from identity theft, such as accounts or addresses, from appearing on your credit report. It will also make sure these [debts do not reappear](#) on your credit reports. Identity Theft Reports can prevent a company from continuing to [collect debts](#) that result from identity theft, or selling them to others for collection. An Identity Theft Report is also needed to place an [extended fraud alert](#) on your credit report.

You may not need an Identity Theft Report if the thief made charges on an existing account and you have been able to work with the company to resolve the dispute. Where an identity thief has opened new accounts in your name, or where fraudulent charges have been reported to the consumer reporting agencies, you should obtain an Identity Theft Report so that you can take advantage of the protections you are entitled to.

In order for a police report to entitle you to the legal rights mentioned above, it must contain specific details about the identity theft. You should file an [ID Theft Complaint](#) with the FTC and bring your printed ID Theft Complaint with you to the police station when you file your police report. The printed ID Theft Complaint can be used to support your local police report to ensure that it includes the detail required.

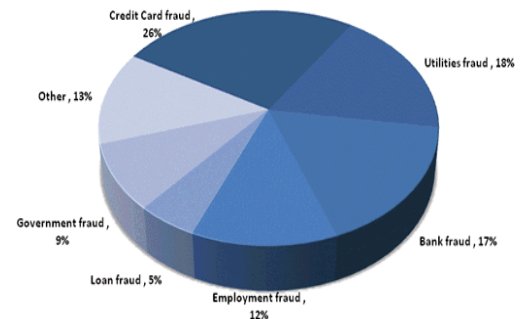
A police report is also needed to get copies of the thief's application, as well as transaction information from companies that dealt with the thief. To get this information, you must submit a request in writing, accompanied by the police report, to the address specified by the company for this purpose. You can find more information and a model letter [here](#).

### What can you do to help fight identity theft?

#### A great deal.

Awareness is an effective weapon against many forms identity theft. Be aware of how information is stolen and what you can do to protect yours, monitor your personal information to uncover any problems quickly, and know what to do when you suspect your identity has been stolen.

The [ftc.gov/idtheft](http://ftc.gov/idtheft) website also contains important forms and procedures in case you become a victim of identity theft. It has a resource list of contact phone numbers for the various agencies and credit bureaus that you may need to contact. I would highly recommend spending a few moments to familiarize yourself with the information on this site.



Graph supplied by <http://www.spendonlife.com/guide/2009-identity-theft-statistics>

## D.P.D. 2010 Strategic Plan

*Chief B. Grogan*

The Dunwoody Police Department began operations on April 1, 2009. In our first nine months of operation, the department has worked hard to address the needs, issues, and concerns of the community as well as establish various partnerships within the community. The dedicated men and women of the Dunwoody Police Department have exceeded all expectations. In addition, the citizens of Dunwoody have been overwhelmingly supportive of the Department's efforts.

The Dunwoody Police Department is not content to relax after our first year of successes. Instead, we are determined to challenge ourselves as we move forward. The successes of our first year are merely a snapshot of our future efforts.

The 2010 Strategic Plan of the Dunwoody Police Department is not a document that will simply sit on a shelf or occupy space on our website. It is a vital tool that we will use to measure our performance and progress throughout the year. Our strategic plan is a living document that guides our daily activities and provides clear direction to every member of the Department. It is a guide and a commitment that working together, we can make a difference in Dunwoody.

To read the strategic plan in full [click here](#).



## Explorers

*Officer W. Furman*

The Dunwoody Police Explorers are winding down their curb painting fund raiser. Due to the weather conditions, the program took much longer than expected. We would like to thank everyone in the community that supported our efforts to raise money for the Jack & Jill Foundation. We were able to raise over \$1000 for them. We will be presenting them with a check in the coming months.

The Explorers are preparing for their upcoming State Competition in May. The Explorers will also be attending a State Conference in Forsyth Georgia in June, the National Conference in July at Georgia Tech and the Metro Atlanta Championship of Explorers to be held in October.

